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FBIS Items of Possible KUCOWN Interest

London Reuters Radioteletype in English to New York 2118 6/22

(Text) Belize--Rebel leader Col. Castillo Armas tonight was reported to have sent Guatemalan President Jacobo Arbenz an ultimatum to surrender as government and rebel armies of nearly equal strength poised around the key town of Zacapa for their first major clash.

Radio Guatemala rebroadcast a news bulletin from radio Tegucigalpa, Honduras, which reported that the rebel ultimatum called for a surrender by 4. P.M. EDT today. Otherwise it would be impossible to avoid further bloodshed, the ultimatum said.

Reports reaching here tonight said the battle for the vital railroad and garrison town of Zacapa was imminent, a conflict which may well seal the fate of the Central American republic. Rebel troops were said to be seeking a pitched engagement with government forces.

Col. Lira, identified as commander of part of Armas' forces, was quoted in tonight's rebroadcast as saying that up to now there have been only a few skirmishes and the list of casualties is low.

Paris AFP Radioteletype in French to Authorized Recipients in Europe, Africa, and the Near East 2231 6/22

(Text) Bogota--A "radio liberacion" broadcast intercepted in Bogota tonight announced that the railroad junction of Zacapa has fallen to the liberation forces.

The announcer beseeched the population not to oppose the liberating forces of Col. Carlos Castillo Armas, but to go over to their side, and to collaborate with the liberators by cutting telegraph and telephone

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lines and by disorganizing the enemy's means of communication.

The announcer also announced that new air raids were made on Guatemala City. He concluded by calling on the Arbens Government to concede its defeat.

For Your Information

Radio Liberacion (Clandestine) in Spanish to Guatemala, came back on the Air at 2313 GMT with the following message to Brigade 28:

"We have canceled the attack on position 1-8. Go ahead with Valentina."

This was followed by an announcement to the people of Guatemala that the liberating army is moving forward in its struggle against Communism.

Then an appeal was made to the university students to join the liberation forces. The listeners are now being told that the Communists have distributed arms to the people in the countryside after getting them drunk. "Do not permit the unprotected population to be murdered. People of Guatemala, beware of the civil guards who are drunk. They are preparing to kill the defenseless public."

The station addressed the following message to Brigade 48:

"We have canceled the attack set for tomorrow on position 1-10. Go ahead according to Valentina. The attack on position 1-10 has been superseded by 1-1,000."

For Your Information

TGWB Guatemala City (Official) Guatemalan Home Service Went Off the

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Air Suddenly at 0204 6/23 in the Middle of a Musical Selection.

Buenos Aires in Spanish to Argentina 0055 6/23

(Text) Guatemala City--Government troops are repelling insurrectionist advances vigorously. According to the high command of the National Army, rebel positions were subjected to intense bombing in Gualan from which they were forced to withdraw.

Bogota AFP in Spanish Morse to Agency Offices 2300 6/23

(Text) Bogota--Colombia is ready to collaborate in efforts to keep the peace in America and to prevent an attempt against the principle of nonintervention under the procedures contained in the American regional system.

Colombian Foreign Minister Evaristo Sourdís, in the morning conservative "La Republica," said: "With respect to the events now occurring in Central America, Colombia cannot ignore that Guatemala, as Colombia, is an Hispanic-Latin nation which appreciates and likes us. That is why we cannot but lament what has been happening to the Guatemalan people."

With regard to the Russian veto in the Security Council against the Colombian-Brazilian proposal that the Guatemalan complaint be passed to the jurisdiction of the Inter-American Peace Committee, Foreign Minister Sourdís said: "This Russian veto has not been cast specifically against the Colombian-Brazilian proposal, but against the American Regional System, whose prestige, quite apparently, the Russians seek to undermine by any means."

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Guatemala City (Official) Home Service in Spanish 2332 6/22

(Summary) The University Students' Council is asking all students to attend a meeting tomorrow at noon at the College of Juridical and Social Sciences.

Matters of importance to all students will be discussed at the meeting.

Paris AFP Radioteletype in English to the Americas B208 6/23

(Text) Bogota--A Guatemalan liberation radio broadcast heard here Tuesday night said "Revolutionary" planes of Colonel Castillo Armas' "liberation" army had dropped parachutists on Guatemalan territory.

Guatemalan support--Federal Deputy Brenio da Silveira of the Socialist Party stated in the Brazilian House of Deputies on June 22 that he is in full sympathy with the cause of the Guatemalan Government. Silveira protested the bombardment of Guatemalan cities by United States planes. (Recife Portuguese 0200 6/23)

Comment: This ought to be denied locally.

Developments From 0000 to 0800EDT:

Guatemala: Both sides report victory at Puerto Barrios (3, 8),

Government admits "much damage" to gasoline storage tanks (8)

Situation reported normal throughout most of country (12)

Chilean Government to take steps to stop further violent demonstrations (4)

Chile and Argentine Foreign Ministers study situation (4, 14)

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Radio Liberacion (Clandestine) in Spanish to Guatemala 0413 6/22

Says that the high command announces some of the names of the localities that have fallen to the liberation army: Tocopan, Morales, Quebradas, Dioc, Igueana, Bananera, Champona, Santo Tomas, Irigua, and Puerto Barrios." The station reports there is still some resistance at Puerto Barrios.

Drivers in the eastern Guatemala are warned that "our saboteur corps" have mined the roads from Guatemala City to Zacapa. The drivers are told to go slow to prevent accidents.

The station says Mrs. Arbenz left the country today and is now in San Salvador.

Paris AFP Radioteletype in French to the Americas 0302 6/23

(Excerpt) Bogota--According to a radio Tegucigalpa broadcast intercepted in Bogota, the ships that were anchored in Puerto Barrios weighted anchor on the night of June 22. Most of these ships belong to the "United Fruit Company."

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